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include a statement that, if the claimant is dissatisfied with the Department's action, that claimant may file suit in an appropriate U.S. District Court not later than 6 months after the date of mailing of the notification.

§ 15.110 What must a claimant do if the administrative claim is approved?

(a) Payment of a claim approved under this subpart is contingent upon claimant's execution of the appropriate forms, such as the SF-194, SF-196, or SF-197, in accordance with instructions by the Department of Justice and/or the Judgment Fund. When a claimant is represented by an attorney, the voucher for payment shall designate the claimant as payee (as the beneficial interest holder), and the check shall be delivered to the attorney whose address appears on the voucher.

(b) Acceptance by the claimant, or his or her agent or legal representative, of an award, compromise, or settlement under 28 U.S.C. 2672 or 28 U.S.C. 2677 is final and conclusive on the claimant, his or her agent or legal representative, and any other person on whose behalf or for whose benefit the claim has been presented and constitutes a complete release of any claim against the United States and against any officer or employee of the Government whose act or omission gave rise to the claim by reason of the same subject matter.

§ 15.111 If the administrative claim is approved, how is the award paid?

(a) Any award, compromise, or settlement in the amount of \$2,500 or less made pursuant to this section shall be paid by the Secretary of Labor out of appropriations available to the Department.

(b) Payment of an award, compromise, or settlement in an amount in excess of \$2,500 made pursuant to this subpart shall be made in accordance with 28 CFR 14.10.

(c) An award, compromise or settlement of a claim under 28 U.S.C. 2672 and this subpart in excess of \$25,000 may be effected only with the prior written approval of the Attorney General or his designee. For the purpose of this subpart, a principal claim and any

29 CFR Subtitle A (7-1-15 Edition)

derivative or subrogated claim shall be treated as a single claim.

Subpart C—Claims Under the Military Personnel and Civilian Employees' Claims Act of 1964

§ 15.200 What is a claim under the MPCECA and who may file such a claim?

(a) A claim under the MPCECA for damage or loss is allowable only if the property involved was being used incident to service with the Department.

(b) A claim may be made under this subpart by an employee of the Department or by a spouse or authorized agent, or legal representative on behalf of the employee. If the employee is deceased, the claim may be filed by a survivor in the following order of preference: Spouse, children, parent, brother or sister or the authorized agent or legal representative of such person or persons.

(c) An MPCECA claim may not be made by or for the benefit of an insurance company, subrogee, assignee, conditional vendor or other third party.

§ 15.201 Where should the MPCECA claim be filed?

(a) If the claimant's official duty station is at the Department's national office in Washington, DC, or if the claim is for an amount in excess of \$25,000, the claim should be filed with the Counsel for Claims and Compensation, Office of the Solicitor of Labor, U.S. Department of Labor, Suite S4325, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC, 20210.

(b) In all other cases, the claimant shall address the claim to the regional or branch office of the Office of the Solicitor servicing the claimant's official duty station.

§ 15.202 How is a claim filed under the MPCECA?

(a) A claim under this subpart must be presented in writing. A sample claim, located on the Department's Office of the Solicitor, Federal Employees' and Energy Workers' Compensation Division Web site at www.dol.gov, is provided as an example for convenience of filing. The SF-95 for FTCA

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claims is not an appropriate form for a MPCECA claim.

(b) The claimant is responsible for substantiating ownership or possession, the facts surrounding the loss or damage, and the value of the property. Any claim filed must be accompanied by the following:

(1) A written statement, signed by the claimant or his or her authorized agent, setting forth the circumstances under which the damage or loss occurred. This statement may also include:

(i) A description of the type, design, model number or other identification of the property.

(ii) The date of purchase or acquisition and the original cost of the property.

(iii) The location of the property when the loss or damage occurred.

(iv) The value of the property when lost or damaged.

(v) The actual or estimated cost of the repair of any damaged item.

(vi) The purpose of and authority for travel, if the loss or damage occurred incident to transportation or to the use of a motor vehicle.

(vii) Any and all available information as to the party responsible for the loss or damage, if such party is someone other than the claimant, and all information as to insurance contracts, whether held by the claimant or by the party responsible.

(2) Copies of all available and appropriate documents such as bills of sale, estimates of repairs, or travel orders. In the case of an automobile, the claimant must file two estimates of repair or a certified paid bill showing the damage incurred and the cost of all parts, labor and other items necessary to the repair of the vehicle or a statement from an authorized dealer or repair garage showing that the cost of such repairs exceeds the value of the vehicle. The Office of the Solicitor may waive the requirement of two estimates of repair.

(3) A copy of the power of attorney or other authorization if someone other than the employee files the claim.

(4) A statement from the employee's immediate supervisor confirming that possession of the property was reasonable, useful or proper under the cir-

cumstances and that the damage or loss was incident to service.

§ 15.203 When should a claim under the MPCECA be filed?

A claim under this subpart may be allowed only if it is filed in writing within 2 years after accrual of the claim. For the purpose of this part, a claim accrues at the later of:

(a) The time of the accident or incident causing the loss or damage;

(b) Such time as the loss or damage should have been discovered by the claimant by the exercise of due diligence; or

(c) Such time as cause preventing filing no longer exists or as war or armed conflict ends, whichever is earlier, if a claim otherwise accrues during war or an armed conflict or has accrued within 2 years before war or an armed conflict begins, and for cause shown.

§ 15.204 Are there limits on claims under the MPCECA?

(a) The maximum amount that can be paid for any claim under the MPCECA is \$40,000, or, if the claim arises from emergency evacuation or extraordinary circumstances, up to \$100,000, and property may be replaced in kind at the option of the Government. 31 U.S.C. 3721(b)(1).

(b) The Department is not an insurer and does not underwrite all personal property losses that an employee may sustain. Employees are encouraged to carry private insurance to the maximum extent practicable to avoid losses, which may not be recoverable from the Department.

§ 15.205 What types of claims for property damage are allowed under the MPCECA?

(a) Claims for property damage are allowed under the MPCECA only if the property involved was being used incident to service with the Department and:

(1) The damage or loss was not caused wholly or partly by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of the claimant, his or her agent, the members of his or her family, or his or her private employee (the standard to be applied is that of reasonable care under the circumstances); and